

The Dassett News - 24th April 2026

This Week:- Leaves have been awarded to the following children. The certificates will be given out in Celebration Assembly on Monday morning. Well done all of you.



Hedgehogs (Reception)	Squirrels (Year 1/2)	Bears (Year 3/4)	Badgers (Year 5/6)
Nathan	Éve	Olivia	Lara
	Grace	Tommy	Ted



Reception— In phonics we continue to revisit the Level 3 sounds and this week have been focused on writing dictated sentences, remembering our finger spaces and letter formation. Mrs. Byrne was very impressed with the fluency of reading when she listened to one of our guided reading groups! In maths children impressed me with how they could manipulate tangram shapes to make different pictures. They have been practising their subitising skills on the White Rose Maths '1 Minute Maths' app, the score to beat is 29! We have also been revisiting how 6 is composed with games of 6 or not 6. In RE, as we continue to explore where people get their values from, we have looked at the REACH values of Respect, Equity and Care and how these link to our school rules. The children listened to the book Kindness with Confucius (Big Ideas For Little Philosophers) and then shared how people had been kind to them and how it made them feel. It really highlighted how caring and kind the children are and how they embody our school rule of looking after each other. This has linked with our Jigsaw topic of Relationships where children talked about the different ways they could make friends and stop themselves from feeling lonely. In other news the caterpillars have more than doubled in size! They have stopped moving around as much and we are wondering if they are getting ready to pupate! We have planted sunflower seeds, so fingers crossed the seeds germinate. There have also been some great model dinosaurs as children explore different ways to join materials. We have been enjoying the weather and doing our gross motor activities on the field where activities have included rolling down the slope and bear crawling backwards! All in all another great week of learning at The Dassett!



Year 1/2— We have had a very fun week, making the most of the beautiful sunny weather! Where possible, we have taken our learning outside. We especially enjoyed observing and drawing plants in Science. We drew detailed diagrams and labelled them with the different plant parts. We realised how lucky we were to have such beautiful school grounds full of interesting flowers! We found forget-me-nots, daffodils, primroses, tulips, buttercups, daises and hyacinths just outside our classroom! In English we have enjoyed writing a diary entry as one of the toy characters. We described in detail a space party that took place on board a spaceship. I was so impressed with the standard and effort in their writing! In maths, we have continued to explore money. Lots of practical activities to get us used to handling coins and notes. We enjoyed comparing amounts, counting in pounds and pence and finding totals. In History, we delved deeper into what it might have been like to have been a passenger on board the Titanic. We looked at the lives of some key people on board and explored the differences between third, second and first class accommodation. In RE we have been exploring the meaning of Gospels and thinking about our own good news and in PSHE we have been considering lifecycles and the changes that occur. It was Earth day on Wednesday; during our reading comprehension lesson we looked at the wonderful book Here We Are, notes for living on planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers and then we had an important discussion about ways we can care for our planet, discussing some simple changes we could make to do reduce our carbon footprint!



Year 3/4 – English this week has continued with the unfolding of our illustrated novel of study - 'The Journey'. It has captured the children's interest and imagination, and we have done a series of smaller scale discussion and written tasks based on this, all of which will build into a written retelling of the story next week. In Maths Mastery, we learned our final times table fact ahead of consolidating and bridging any gaps next week onwards. In our main maths lesson, we have concluded our work on telling the time with 24-Hour clock time and beginning to calculate durations. (As a life skill, keep practising such 'Time' work at home throughout the year in order to remain proficient at reading different types of clocks, understanding durations etc.) In History, we started to look at some of archaeological evidence that exists from Ancient Sumer and the insights such finds give us into their lives 6000 years ago. In PSHE we discussed navigating problems that arise in friendships and how to be a good friend; how to seek to resolve conflict by finding acceptable "win-wins". Our RE considered the question, do you have to go to church to be a Christian. We then watched a video with practising Christians offering their viewpoints. (We will ask similar questions of other major faith groups too.) In Art we attempted some figure drawing, with pupils' briefly modelling standing poses at the front of the class. Most found it very challenging as they sought to get the correct positioning and proportions. PE witnessed us having a pretty intense cardio-afternoon of athletic sprinting and circuit training (squats, sit-ups, step-up's and skipping stations). In Science we continued with our work on grouping and classifying, looking at classification keys. In Music we used the computer to explore our unit on adding sound effects to film with an underwater score.



Year 5/6 - Lots of hard work again this week but also time to enjoy the sunshine outside and the exciting start of our Opal playtimes. We've really enjoyed having some new activities to do outside, including lunch time disco (which several staff have also enjoyed! Mrs Proudfoot would like some Spice Girls next week please). In maths, our topic has been ratio proportion. We started the week by solving problems involving different ratio values in different contexts. We have also been looking at scale factors, similar shapes and volume. English has been all about hippos! We used a clip of these to learn about active and passive voice before writing some short information and descriptive texts about caring for orphaned hippos in the African savannah. Science has been starting our new topic of light and learning that light travels in straight lines. We did some demos to show this including using a laser pointer and mirrors to get the red spot on a target. In music we learnt to sing 'Roll Alabama Roll' and then listened to the Bellowhead version of this. French was learning to say sentences about which animals we'd like to see. On Friday, in the lovely sunshine, we completed a grammar scavenger hunt all over the school site. Different questions were hidden around the outside area and children had to find an answer them in groups at speed! Year 6- and some Year 5s- have been completing different practice SATS questions; they have shown a wonderful attitude to taking on some tricky tests and we are so proud of all their efforts!



OPAL This week saw us start to release the first wave of resources in order to widen our playground and field activities. These were excitedly received by the children. They may have spoken to you about dancing to music, digging in the mud or playing with 'small world' toys such as cars and road mats. Together with areas for ball games and the existing trim trail, children are finding and accessing new avenues of play. More will be coming in due course as the term progresses. Clearly, the sunny weather helps, but we will shortly be speaking to you about welly provision as we will seek to be using our wonderful field space all year round and in all weathers. In the meantime, please ensure that your child has sun cream applied at home before they come to school and that they bring a hat.

Dates for this Half Term

Monday 27th April—Class photographs. Children will be having their school class photographs on this day. If you do not wish your child to be in the photograph please let your class teacher know. In addition Year 6 will have a group leavers photograph—please ensure that year 6 wear their usual uniform but bring in bring their leavers hoodies.

Coming Up

Monday 4th May– Bank holiday—school is closed

Thursday 7th May– Reception Class Assembly. Parents and carers of children in Reception are invited to join us for an assembly at 9.00am

Friday 8th May– David Attenborough's 100th Birthday. Special Lunch Happy 100th Birthday Sir David Attenborough. Children can choose from either Ocean Fish Finger Bap or Wildlife Wonder Pizza Pinwheel served with Attenbite chips, Centenary peas, Sir David's Beany Wonders or Planet Earth Salad. Dessert is a choice of Lemon Expedition Whoopie Pie or Coral Reef Raspberry Frozen Mousse. Lunch can be ordered in the normal way. To celebrate this milestone there will be activities—further details to follow.

Memories of Fenny Compton School by Roy Jenkins

Please see message below from Roy.

Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you well.

Over the past few months, with a little help from my nephew, I've put together a small booklet titled *Memories of Fenny Compton School*. It's a modest collection of recollections from my time there (1938—1947 including the war years) The classrooms, the teachers, the friendships, and a few stories that have stayed with me over the years. It has a colour front and back cover and there are several whimsical illustrations throughout,

At 92, I find myself looking back more often, and it struck me that these memories might be of interest not only to old classmates and their families, but also to anyone connected with the village or its school. Times were very different then, and perhaps some of you will recognise names, places, or even a story or two.

The booklet is 16 x A5 pages — nothing grand, just a simple record of days gone by. If you would like a copy, I would be delighted to send one. There's no fixed price, but a suggested donation of around £2 would help cover the printing costs. If you feel it's worth something, a small contribution would be welcome. Any donation beyond printing costs will go towards the school fund. If you're interested, please do get in touch.

With very best wishes,

Roy W Jenkins

We have a limited supply of books in school, please contact the office if you would like to purchase one.

Onside Camps—May half term

Please see attached information on Onside's half term clubs. It is a fantastic way for children to stay active and continue to learn about sports, forest school, team building etc

Go Go Makers half term club

This May, we're bringing something extra exciting with our theme: "Lights. Camera. Action!" a new movie world every day!

Running from Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May, each day will transport children into a different cinematic adventure, packed with creative play, games, and high-energy activities. Please see attached information.

Woodford Lionesses

Thomas Mitchell is the coach for a new girls' football initiative called Woodford Lionesses, based at Woodford United. We are excited to offer free football sessions for girls aged 5–11, taking place every Friday evening from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Woodford United (NN11 3QS).

These sessions are designed to be fun, welcoming, and inclusive, with no previous experience required.

Our aim is to encourage more girls to get involved in football, whether they are completely new to the sport or looking to develop their skills further. We also have Under 11 and Under 12 teams available for more advanced players who may be interested in progressing into team football.

As girls' football continues to grow rapidly, we are passionate about helping develop the game at a local level. We want to create an environment where girls can stay active, build confidence, make new friends, and enjoy being part of a team.

Please see attached information.

Have a lovely weekend—from Miss Corry and All at The Dassetts